

Friends of Stony Brook

Fish Monitoring Results: August 2021

The electrofishing demonstration was conducted in Station 2 and Station 3 on the attached station map. Station 2 is downstream of the culvert crossing where no habitat work was completed yet. Station 3 was from the culvert crossing upstream to the private driveway crossing where the Wild Rose Habitat crew completed restoration work last year.

There were 5 young of year brown trout captured in Station 2, but no adults were sampled. For Station 3, 7 Young of Year (YOY) brown trout were captured, 16 adult brown trout, and 2 adult brook trout. The average length for adult brown trout was 13.0 inches with the largest fish measuring 17.7 inches. There were 6 adult brown trout that had PIT tags from past handling including fish number 989001033205528 that measured 13.1 inches. This fish was originally PIT tagged during sampling on 8/10/2020 and measured 8.5 inches, putting on 4.6 inches of growth in just over 1 year. There was 1 adult brook trout that had a PIT tag (989001033205501) that measured 9.5 inches, this fish was originally tagged during sampling on 8/11/2020 and measured 5.4 inches.

Overall, the survey results were very positive and indicated high trout use in the completed restoration areas. The YOY brown trout sampled are the first documented natural reproduction at Stony Brook in decades, possibly even the first ever.

Earlier in the day we also conducted electrofishing at Stations 4 and 5 upstream of Long Road that yielded 6 brook trout (9.5-11.5 inches) and 2 YOY brown trout. There were YOY brown trout captured in 3 of the 4 stations sampled (would have been all 4, but I let one get away) for a total of 14 YOY brown trout captured.

Below is the size structure for all trout that were captured at the 4 stations. Thank you to all the landowners, partners, agencies, and individuals that have made this project successful. It's a great example of how working together can lead to good outcomes on the landscape.

